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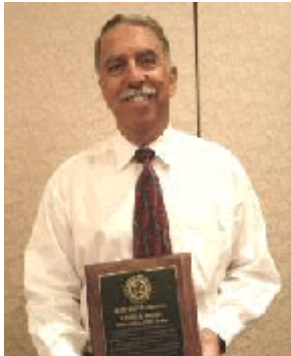
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Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket Receives Two Honors



PHOENIX, Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas Zlaket (left) received two awards for his dedicated service to the administration of justice. First, Chief Justice Zlaket was presented with the Paul C. Reardon Award by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Roger Warren, president of NCSC, traveled to Arizona to make the presentation to Chief Justice Zlaket. The Reardon Award is named for the late Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice, Paul C. Reardon, who was the first president of the board of directors of the NCSC. The Reardon Award honors an individual who has distinguished herself or himself by working to further the goals and mission of the NCSC to improve the administration of justice through leadership and service to state courts. Chief Justice Zlaket was selected for the award from a field of national jurists.



Second, Chief Justice Zlaket (below) was presented with the James A. Walsh Outstanding Jurist Award by the State Bar of Arizona at their annual convention. The Walsh Award is presented to a judge whose career exemplifies the highest standards of judicial conduct for integrity and independence; who is knowledgeable of the law and faithful to it; who is unswayed by partisan interests, public clamor or fear of criticism; who is patient, dignified and courteous to all who appear before the court; and, who endeavors to improve the administration of justice and public understanding of, and respect for, the role of law in our society.

During the presentation of both awards, Chief Justice Zlaket was praised for his commitment to the fair administration of justice, including his service as co-chair for the National Conference on Public Trust and Confidence in the Justice System, as a member of the board of directors for the Conference of Chief Justices, and as past president of the State Bar of Arizona. Chief Justice Zlaket was also honored for his numerous, innovative programs that have been adopted by states across the nation. Two policies noted during the presentations are Chief Justice Zlaket's mandatory professionalism course for all court employees, and his reformed discovery rules—known as “Zlaket Rules”—designed to reduce the cost of litigation.

For more information, contact Richard Travis, public information officer, (602) 542-9656.